

I claim:

1. A data storing device comprising a data memory and compression coding and/or decoding means, for the storing of picture data in a compressed or decompressed data format, wherein said compression coding and decoding means include means for labelling and retrieving selected data segments.
2. A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said compression coding decoding means comprises programmed digital computer means.
3. A device as claimed in claim 1, and further including picture generating means for generating digital picture data and means for supplying said digital picture data to said compression coding and/or decoding means.
4. A device as claimed in claim 1, and further comprising a traffic monitoring installation with a digital camera, said digital camera generating camera data representing the picture of a traffic scene; and means for supplying said camera data as said picture data to said compression coding and/or decoding means.
5. A method of storing picture data in a compressed or decompressed data format in a data storing memory, comprising the steps of:

dividing said picture data into data segments, at least one of said data segments having a location represented by location information,

storing said location information of said at least one data segment.

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6. A method as claimed in claim 5, and further comprising the steps of:

reading said stored location information of one of said at least one data segment, and

compressing or decompressing, respectively, selectively said at least one data segment.

7. A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said data segments are compressed to associated different degrees of compression.

8. A method as claimed in claim 7, and further comprising the steps of:

selecting one of said at least one data segment using said location information, and

decompressing said selected data segment in accordance with its associated degree of compression.

9. A method of storing picture data representing a traffic scene in a compressed or decompressed data format in a data storing memory, comprising the steps of:

generating a picture of a traffic scene by means of a digital camera of a traffic monitoring installation, whereby picture data representing the picture of said traffic scene are generated;

dividing said picture data into data segments, at least one of said data segments having a location represented by location information;

storing said location information of said at least one data segment;

compressing said data segments;

selecting said at least one data segment using said location information, and decompressing said selected data segment independently of other ones of said data segments .

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